

The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society's
EXCITER



RARS EVENTS:

- The RARS General Membership meeting is the 1st Tuesday of the month.
- The RARS net meets every night @ 8 PM on 146.640.
- The RARS Technical & Trader's net is Saturdays @ 8:30 PM or following the RARS net.
- RARS meets for a monthly dinner on the 2nd Tuesday of each month.

RARS Classifieds

Looking to add a new radio to your shack? Have an antenna for sale? Browse the RARS classifieds for new and used radio equipment at <http://rars.org/classifieds.php>.

RARS members are welcome to post notices about equipment they are selling. Posts last for 30 days and are editable at any time.

Using our classifieds is a great way for buyers to search for available items and for sellers to reach a local, targeted audience.



Next RARS Meeting: August 2

7:30 PM: QRP by Paul Stroud AA4XX.
VE testing also available. See page 3 for details.

RARS OFFICERS:

PRESIDENT

Karl Bowman

W4CHX

919.669.6068

w4chx@arrl.net

VICE PRESIDENT

Candy Orr

KJ4OBQ

919-217-7734

cjorr@bellsouth.com

SECRETARY

Charles Swindell

WB4DCM

919.848.0410

wb4dcm@arrl.net

TREASURER

Greg Seamster

KE4PAX

919.859.0029

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The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society

The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society, Inc. (RARS) was founded in 1969 and continues to serve and support the amateur radio community in the greater Triangle area. In 1999, the society incorporated a new RARS and obtained 501(c)(3) non-profit tax status.

The objectives of the club are to promote worldwide friendship through amateur radio; to be of public service by providing radio communications in times of disaster, emergency, or civic needs; to educate members in radio technique, and to provide training classes to assist in obtaining amateur radio licenses.

Anyone interested in amateur radio is eligible to apply for membership. Dues for regular licensed amateurs are \$18 per year (from July 1 through June 30). Additional immediate family members pay \$5 each per year. Dues for licensed amateurs older than 59 or younger than 16 are \$12 per year. Dues for non-licensed associate members are \$9 per year. Applications for membership may be obtained from the treasurer or on the RARS website (www.rars.org).



The Exciter

The *Exciter* is the official newsletter of the Raleigh Amateur Radio Society. It appears each month as a PDF on the RARS website at www.rars.org. Members receive email notification when the latest version is available. Please provide your email address to the Treasurer.

The *Exciter* welcome articles, advertisements, and other contributions. To submit a piece to the newsletter, please contact the Editor.

The views expressed in the *Exciter* are those of the individual authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Editor or RARS.

The Editor reserves the right to edit any and all pieces.

The submission deadline for each month's *Exciter* is the third Friday of the preceding month. All submissions must be final. Drafts are not accepted.

Editor: Courtney Enzor KI4HOS (editor@rars.org)

RARS General Meeting

Date: First Tuesday of each month

Location: First Alliance Church

4400 Buffaloe Road

Raleigh, NC

Time: People begin arriving at 7 PM. The meeting officially begins at 7:30 PM.

RARS Monthly Dinner

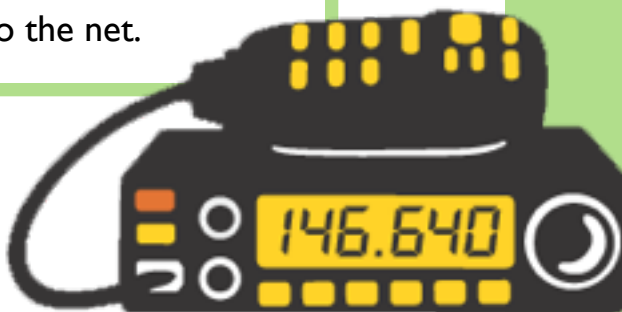
Join us on the 2nd Tuesday of each month for the RARS dinner. It's open to everyone: RARS members, non-members, friends, and family – feel free to bring your little ones! Dinner begins at 6:30 pm.

Listen to the nightly RARS net and check www.rars.org for details on the next dinner's location.

RARS Repeaters in Raleigh

146.640 & 443.625 (88.5 PL)

Join us for the nightly RARS net @ 8 PM on the 146.640. All hams holding a Technician class license or higher are invited to check in. We welcome both RARS and non-RARS member to the net.



VE TESTING

The RARS VEs will accept walk-in testing at the February, May, August, and November RARS meetings; the RARSFest in April; the Cary Swapfest in July; the JARSFest in November; and following RARS license classes.

Please bring a photo ID, your current license, a copy of your current license, your \$15 exam fee, and any CSCEs you have for credit. Visit www.rars.org for more information.

August Birthdays

Mike	KF4YSX	8/5
Clement	KD4BMA	8/8
Mel	K4FEP	8/8
Philip	NC4UK	8/9
Ralph	KJ4TTI	8/9
Andy	NI4S	8/10
Nola	KD4OLZ	8/12
Ross	KK4BVP	8/14
Paul	AE4MN	8/15
Bernard	W4BRB	8/17
Chuck	W3WZN	8/19
Al	KE4IHX	8/20
Red	AC4QX	8/21
Barry	KD4WTI	8/22
Mirl	W4WMA	8/22
Steve	KJ4BX	8/23
Jack	KI4YXK	8/24
Peter	KJ4MDY	8/25
Don	N8DDK	8/27
Edward	N4SSU	8/29
Charlie	W4VFJ	8/30
Dan	KD4AGQ	8/31
Sarah	KJ4WZD	8/31

Upcoming Hamfests

- 7/30 35th Annual Western Carolina Hamfest
Waynesville, NC
<http://www.wcars.org/hamfest.html>
- 8/6 CFARS Swapfest
Fayetteville, NC
http://k4hm.net/2011_CFARS_SwapFest.pdf
- 8/7 Berryville Hamfest
Berryville, VA
<http://www.svarc.us/hamfest/index.html>
- 8/20 ARRL West VA State Convention
Weston, WV
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/west-virginia-state-convention-1>
- 8/20- ARRL Alabama Section Convention
8/21 Huntsville, AL
<http://www.hamfest.org/>

New RARS Members

Peter Eggimann	KJ4MDY
Murray Merner	K4MHM
Nadia Scharlau	No License
Julie Royster	KI4OTM
Frank Overstreet	KJ4CKP

June 2011

RARS Net Reports

Checkins: 610
Traffic: 32/26
Minutes: 650
Sessions: 30

Special Interest Nets:*

Checkins: 130
Minutes: 350
Sessions: 11

*The special interest net numbers include the three nets done on a temporary basis to promote field day.

Field Day Wrap Up

Article by Bob Starkenburg W4TTX

First of all I want to thank everyone for their hard work this year. RARS has a long history of truly enjoyable Field Days, and this year was no exception. You folks did an exceptional job getting your stations up and running for the event. I know it is a lot of work getting it all together, and it is greatly appreciated.

I also want to recognize the Pendletons - Vianne (hereby dubbed the Official RARS Princess of Provisions) and Dale W4AUV (aka the Official RARS Pit Master) for assembling another spectacular feast for Saturday supper and Sunday lunch. There was plenty of fried chicken, pork BBQ, and fixings to satisfy the hungriest of individuals, with an abundance of leftovers and grilled goodies for Sunday lunch.

Kudos to David KF4VXJ as well for his tireless efforts at obtaining donations for the event. We were well-stocked with drinks and snacks, and the sandwich platter for lunch on Saturday was a nice bit of lagniappe. Even though the stale tortillas made acceptable plates, I will remember to actually bring paper plates and utensils for Saturday lunch next year: [note to self] :-). David also copied the WIAW Field Day message, getting us additional 100 bonus points.

I also want to acknowledge the "behind the scenes" work of Ken KI4OTO. He provided much-needed logistical support with fire extinguishers, ice, and another well done educational session (generator maintenance - more bonus points there as well). Also working behind the scenes was Hank K4HM. Hank prepared the FD web page for the RARS site and did a marvelous job. Many thanks, Hank.

Thanks as well to Paul Mobus KE4TMN for handling message traffic and the message to the ARRL section manager again this year - that will get us another 200 bonus points. John AI4RT set up and took down the Visitor's Booth, garnering even more bonus points for RARS - muchos gracias, amigo. Mike KB7NLA worked satellite for us this year and although he did not make any contacts, I want to acknowledge the club's appreciation for his efforts. Gary KN4AQ made the media end of this work for yet more bonus points. Gary, your efforts are truly valued. If you have not seen the News 14 clip on our FD efforts, here is a link kindly supplied to me by Cliff, W4FT:

[http://triangle.news14.com/content/top_stories/642945/ham-radio-operators-hold-annual-field-day-in-apex.](http://triangle.news14.com/content/top_stories/642945/ham-radio-operators-hold-annual-field-day-in-apex)

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Finally, we should all give our thanks to the Carrolls for allowing us to use their property again this year. I saw to Jim and Beth this morning and they are both looking forward to our 3-day invasion next year.

We would like to thank the following sponsors for their generous support of Field Day 2011. You are greatly appreciated!



Crabtree Valley Mall

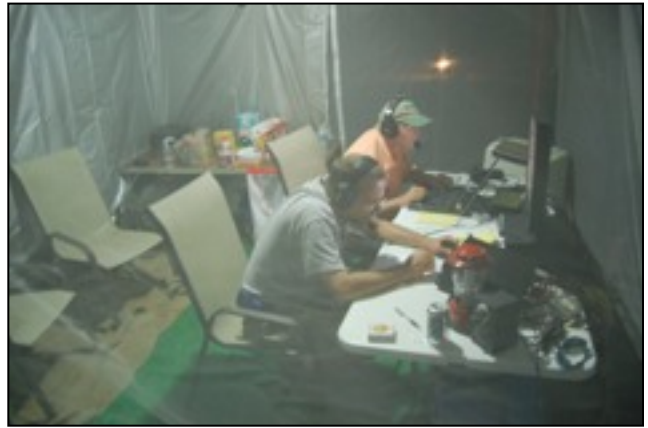
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Field Day Pictures

Photos and Captions by Bob Starkenburg W4TTX



Above: 40 Phone Ops.



Above: NC4UK and W4TTX work late night on 20 phone.



Above: Sleeping on the job.



Above: KB7NLA's satellite setup.



Above: Raising the 6 meter beam.



Above: N4HAF on 40 meter CW.

Field Day Pictures

Photos and Captions by Bob Starkenburg W4TTX



Above: Meeting of the minds.



Above: Idyllic 15 meter phone setting.



Above: WA9SZL and KB4TKQ's solar setup.



Above: Jack N6UYB and his antenna launcher.



Above: Fire safety talk.



Above: K14OTO gives generator tips.

Field Day Pictures

Photos and Captions by Bob Starkenburg W4TTX



Above: Ashby W5PGX SK (left) and KF4VXJ chat it up. Ashby, you will be missed.



Above: Special thanks to everyone who provided food.



Above: Hams do love to eat.



Above: Our ARRL visitors AE4UX and N2ZZ.



Above: A Motley Crew.

Want to see more Field Day pictures? View more [here](#) taken by Ashby W5PGX via Ashby III, KB5ZIH.

Upcoming Ham Radio Class

Have you ever had an interest in ham radio? Want to talk to folks around the world? Want to assist with communications during an emergency? Want to help with public service events? Like to talk and make new friends? Then ham radio may be for you!

WakeMed Health and Hospitals and RARS are sponsoring a class this Fall to assist interested folks in getting their **Technician Class License** (entry level). This **2-part class** will prepare participants for the FCC exam which will be administered at the end of the last class session. **The class is open to the public.** Details follow:

Dates: Saturday, Oct. 1, 2011 8:00 am – 12:30 pm
 Saturday, Oct. 8, 2011 8:00 am – noon; Exam at 1:00 pm

Place: WakeMed Cary Hospital in the Conference Center
 1900 Kildaire Farm Road
 Cary, NC 27518
 (Parking is free; please use the “overflow lot,” which is the small
 lot between the parking deck and Kildaire Farm Road.)

Instructor: Mike Murphy WA4BPJ, Raleigh Amateur Radio Society

Cost: \$30.00 for the class (includes manual) and \$15.00 for the exam fee; checks should be made out to RARS upon receipt of the manual. The exam fee will be paid at exam time.

All participation is by pre-registration. To pre-register for the class, please contact either Eric Weaver K4WVR, Campus Police & Public Safety for WakeMed Health & Hospitals
(O) 919-350-7424 or (C) 919-201-1568

EWEAVER@wakemed.org

or

Virginia Enzor NC4VA, Education Director for the Raleigh Amateur Radio Society
919-469-8555

nc4va@nc.rr.com

Deadline for pre-registration is Wednesday, September 28, 2011. Should you wish to receive the manual ahead of time, please contact Eric or Virginia to make arrangements. To learn more about ham radio, please visit www.arrl.org.

Minutes of June 21, 2011 RARS Board Meeting

Present: Greg KE4PAX, John AI4RT, Chuck K4HF, Hank K4HM, Selene KG4RMT, CJ KJ4OBQ, Bob W4TTX, Ken KI4OTO and Don WA4AVU.

Guests: David KF4VXJ

Apologies and/or emailed reports: Karl W4CHX, Gary KN4AQ

1. Call to order (CJ KJ4OBQ): The meeting was called to order at 7:02 PM.

2. Approval of minutes (CJ KJ4OBQ and Charles WB4DCM): The Minutes of the May 17, 2011 meeting of the RARS Board were approved. Moved by Chuck, 2nd by Bob W4TTX.

3. Vice President's report (CJ KJ4OBQ): CJ KJ4OBQ has confirmed the following speakers: July, Dick Orander, KD4ISC, "Radiograms"; August, Paul Stroud, AA4XX, "QRP"; and, September, tentatively John Snellen, AI4RT, "Public Service Events".

4. Treasurer's report (Greg KE4PAX): Currently have 304 members. Complete report available upon request. Donations: \$400 to TRRS, \$100 to Amateur Radio Newline. ARRL donation this year: \$250 to Diamond Club. Membership approved budget at June meeting. Copies available upon request. Will have financial review before next board meeting. Renewal notices will be sent before July 1.

5. Secretary's report (Charles WB4DCM): None.

6. Committee reports:

a. Public Service Director (John AI4RT): Completed about 5 events so far. 2 new Public Service events: Cup and Cone and Tour de Orange in Hillsborough. July 4: Firecracker (19th year);

b. Public Information Officer (Gary KN4AQ): None

c. Education Director (Virginia NC4VA): None

d. Field Day Chair (Bob W4TTX): FD is this weekend, everything seems to be coming together. Map is on web site. David has done great job of collecting donations. Last FD net tonight, will finalize frequencies. Bob will try to put up

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an APRS object. Setup starts Friday at 2:00. David Price will not attend, no response from others, so may not get bonus points for officials visiting. Discussion of last year's motion for mowing fees; need to look into what it was. KB7NLA is putting up a satellite station.

e. FM Repeater Chair (Gary KN4AQ): Moving ahead with Phase I

f. RARSFest Chair (John AI4RT): First RARSFest planning meeting September 22. Working on date for next year's hamfest.

g. Exciter Chair (Courtney KI4HOS): None

h. Hospitality Chair (Mary Jo K4MJL): Everything is cool.

i. Net Manager (Mary KG4OQA): None

j. ARRL Liaison (Chuck K4HF): Nothing to report.

k. At-Large Director (Don WA4AVU): Working with Bob W4TTX to put up Field Day Object for the RARS site. Have interest in checking out RARS APRS Units. KJ4BX is checking them out, and we plan to start loaning them out in July. We plan to put on an APRS workshop later in the year and invite Cary ARC members as well.

l. At-Large Director (Ken KI4OTO): Ken will be bringing supplies to FD, including cups, plates, cooled water, and ice. Has planned generator maintenance sessions for FD. Hank K4HM to ask Jeff AC4ZO to update Ken's email address on RARS lists.

m. At-Large Director (Jack N6UYB): None

n. W4DW/W4RNC Trustee (Jeff AC4ZO): None

o. RARSVE Coordinators (Joe WA4GIR and Liz KO4CK): None. Greg KE4PAX reported 14 youth tests have been reimbursed.

p. RARS Webmaster (Hank K4HM): Catching up web site items. Email from Cafe Press sells shirts, hats, etc. They have a RARS mug on their web site and could

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offer other merchandise. Hank is gathering more information from them. Need to look at adding Service Mark to logo (everywhere it is used.) Hank will send proposal to Board.

7. Old business:

a. Followup on agenda items introduced by Bob KB4RGC (Ken KI4OTO): With regard to efforts to get new club members, CJ KJ4OBQ presented draft letter to send to people who have received a new license. Requested board to review. Intent is to welcome new licensees and invite them to become involved with RARS. CJ will send draft to board list and will collate responses for review at next meeting.

b. Board of Directors job descriptions (Hank K4HM): Has received several job descriptions. Working on how to format the descriptions.

c. Field Day 2011: donations and in-kind services project (David KF4VXJ): David KF4VXJ reported that we have lots of donations (get list from David?) including drinks, snacks, sandwiches, meat, rolls, condiments. Could use ice to start pre-chilling drinks on Thursday. Need thank you letters sent to those who donated. David will provide names and addresses.

d. Bereavement donations (Greg KE4PAX): Currently have Bitner fund to pay youth testing, but close to fully utilizing those funds. We want to continue this tradition, possibly from education budget or by establishing an education fund. Greg will email draft of memorial letter to receive comments from the board.

Motion from Greg KE4PAX that monetary bereavement donations will be made to a the RARS Youth Education fund, and a sympathy card with a note describing the fund will be sent to the family by the RARS Secretary. Seconded by Chuck. Passed unanimously.

Discussion: the history of the Bitner fund should be included in the description of this fund.

e. Financial review committee will meet Wednesday July 13. KE4PAX, KI4OTO, W4TTX, and N6UYB will participate.

7. New business:

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a. Donations for snacks have not covered snack expenses for the last few meetings. Will make announcements about donations for snacks at meetings

b. Discussion of club insurance?

c. EmComm course by ARRL (new course combines old Level 1 and Level 2 courses). Classes are listed on ARRL web site and may be of interest to RARS members.

8. Any other business: None

9. Board member's comments:

a. Chuck K4HF received phone call from Karl W4CHX. He is doing well after his surgery today and passes on his regards.

b. Greg KE4PAX visited the Maker Faire Saturday. Looks like good opportunity for RARS. There was an ARRL booth, video by KN4AQ, had balloon launch with APRS tracking.

c. Ken KI4OTO stopped by Tech Shop. They have specialized tools where members can work on projects. Support metal shop (for punching chassis, etc.), screen printing, etc.

10. Adjournment (CJ KJ4OBQ): The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 PM.

Minutes of July 5, 2011 RARS Meeting

1. Call to order: The meeting was called to order at 7:34 PM by Vice President CJ KJ4OBQ on behalf of President Karl W4CHX. There were 64 members and guests present.

2. Approval of minutes: The minutes of the RARS General Membership meeting on June 7, 2011 were approved as amended.

3. Vice President's report (C J Orr KJ4OBQ): No report.

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4. Treasurer's report (Greg KE4PAX): Treasurer Greg Ke4PAX advised that at the end of our last fiscal year (June 30, 2011) we had 305 members. He is now receiving dues for the new fiscal year. Greg requested that anyone holding receipts for reimbursement from Field Day to please turn them into him. RARS has made a donation to the ARRL Diamond Club.

5. Announcements (CJ KJ4OBQ):

a. RARS Dinner: second Tuesday, (July 12, 2011), 6:30PM, Golden Corral, 6129 Glenwood Ave (Hwy 70), monitor the 146.64 repeater on Tuesday (July 12) for any update information.

b. RARS Board meeting: third Tuesday (July 19, 2011), 7:00PM, Triangle Radio Reading Service, 211 E. Six Forks Rd, Suite 103; any RARS member is welcome to attend. If you are planning to attend and have agenda items, please send Karl W4CHX an email prior to the meeting. For more information, contact any RARS officer.

c. After meeting gathering: Depending on the time of the program completion: Applebee's, Six Forks Rd and Wake Forest Rd (by the Costco).

6. Guests: Murray Merrer K4MHM, Sherwood Dixon KJ4DAP, Robbin Thomas KJ4DAZ, Peter Eggimaun KJ4MDY, Jim Lasswell KK4CKM, and Travis Ward KJ4DBA.

7. Reports from RARS Board members and others:

a. John AI4RT did a presentation for Public Service, ARES, and RARSFest. All of them need volunteers. ARES net meets on Thursday evenings at 8:30PM on the 146.64 repeater following the RARS net. RARSFest planning meetings will begin in late September. Public Service season is upon us. The MS Bike Ride in New Bern will be September 10 & 11. Please check the web page and volunteer.

b. Gary KN4AQ FM Repeater Chair advised that Field Day had slowed down the move of the 145.13 repeater. That move should be accomplished in a few more weeks.

c. Bob W4TTX Field Day Chair took the floor and thanked the many people that helped to make Field Day a success. He then called David KF4VXJ to the front and presented him with cap for all of David's work in securing donations of supplies for Field Day.

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8. Any other business:

a. Selene KG4RMT reminded everyone of the Cary Swapfest on July 16.

9. Drawing: The drawings were won by Robert KG4BDX and Virginia NC4VA.

10. Program: Vice President CJ KJ4OBQ announced that the program for August will be on QRP. She then introduced Dick KD4ISC and his program, "Radiograms". Assisting Dick was Joe W4TTO. They proceeded to give us a breakdown on the ARRL radiogram form and what each part contributes to the success of the message. Using power point slides, they demonstrated the art of message handling. Joe announced that the PCTN net meets nightly on the 146.88 repeater at 9:00 PM. There are HF nets using CW, SSB, and digital.

David KF4VXJ then made a few comments about the businesses that contributed supplies to our Field Day operation. He suggested that we thank them for their contributions.

11. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:46 PM by Vice President CJ KJ4OBQ

Local Amateur Radio Nets

Join us every evening at 8 PM on the 146.640 repeater for the **RARS Two-Meter Net**. You can give a ragchew, check in and out (this counts for our total numbers reported to the ARRL!), make announcements, and pass traffic. We also offer National Traffic System traffic training. All licensed stations are welcome to participate in the net as often as they can. This net is also a great way to learn about amateur radio if you are newly licensed!

Central Carolina SKYWARN

Please join us each Tuesday @ 9:15 PM on the 146.880 repeater for the CCS net. On each net there are announcements, check-ins by county, and often a program or training spot. Check us out at www.centralcarolinaskywarn.net.

The **PCTN (Piedmont Costal Traffic Net)** meets every night at 9 PM on the 146.880. The purpose of the net is to handle/pass NTS formal messages. Amateur stations are encouraged to check in and participate. The backup repeater is the 147.105 (PL tone 82.5).

The Wake County ARES Net

meets Thursdays at 8:30 PM on the 146.640 repeater. We provide discussion training for the implementation and provision of emergency communications for our served agencies, such as the American

Red Cross and the local and state Emergency Operations Center. Please join us. For more information, check out www.wakeares.org.

Please join us on the **Carolina 440 Net** every Monday night at 7:30 PM.

This ragchew net utilizes the Carolina 440 UHF Link Repeater System. Comprised of the Raleigh, Down East, and Coastal Wilmington link systems, there are currently 19 repeaters on the system, covering 21,168 square miles. For a list of these repeaters, please visit www.carolina440.net.

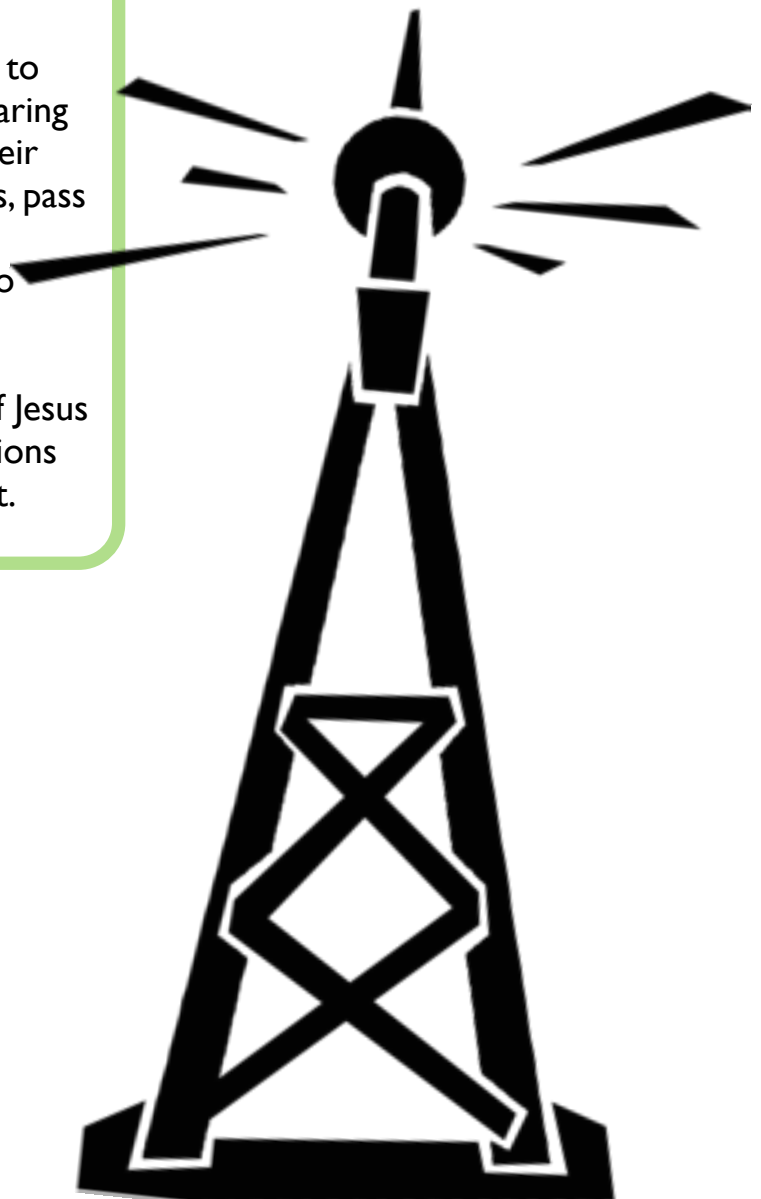
Local Amateur Radio Nets

The **RARS Technical & Trader's Net** is held on Saturday evenings on the 146.640 at 8:30 PM.

Apex Emergency Response Communications Net

This net meets weekly each Sunday evening @ 9 PM on the 146.640 repeater. The purpose of the net is to assist ham radio operators in preparing to respond to emergencies, test their equipment, improve operating skills, pass traffic, and to provide those with a common interest an opportunity to meet. The Apex ERC Net provides amateur radio emergency communications for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. All stations are invited to participate in this net.

The **VOIP Hurricane Net** is held Sundays at 00:00 UTC on the 146.775 repeater with a tone of 88.5 (IRLP node 4260). For information about activation details, go to www.voipwx.net.



RARS Classifieds

Looking to add a new radio to your shack? Have an antenna for sale? Browse the RARS classifieds for new and used radio equipment at <http://rars.org/classifieds.php>.

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Using our classifieds is a great way for buyers to search for available items and for sellers to reach a local, targeted audience.

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